



NATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF THE BLIND

*Live the life you want.*

**2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**ORLANDO, FLORIDA**

**JULY 10 to JULY 15**

THE MEMBERS OF THE  
HOST AFFILIATE COMMITTEE  
WELCOME YOU TO THE  
77<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE  
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND

*Mark Riccobono, President*  
National Federation of the Blind  
200 East Wells Street *at Jernigan Place*  
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

*John Berggren, Chairman*  
Convention Organization and Activities

*Shawn Callaway, President*  
National Federation of the Blind  
of District of Columbia  
National Federation of the Blind  
Board of Directors

*James Brown, President*  
National Federation of the  
Blind  
of Tennessee

*Nani Fife, President*  
National Federation of the Blind  
of Hawaii

*Donald Porterfield, President*  
National Federation of the  
Blind  
of Arizona

*Rosen Shingle Creek*  
9939 Universal Boulevard  
Orlando, Florida 32819  
(866) 996-9939

## WELCOME!

Welcome to the 77<sup>th</sup> annual convention of the National Federation of the Blind being held in Orlando at the Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel. A detailed description of the layout of the hotel can be found immediately after the "Convention Notes," which are at the end of the program listings. Check the "Convention Notes" for further information about a variety of convention topics. When you check in to the hotel, you will be asked to confirm your departure date. If you decide to leave earlier than the departure date you confirm when you check in, there may be a change fee.

## ROOKIE ROUNDUP



All first-time convention attendees are cordially invited to attend a reception from 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. on Monday in the Panzacola Ballroom G-1, Level 1. President Riccobono and other Federation leaders will be on hand to welcome you to the convention and preview the week's activities.

Veteran conventioners should urge all first-timers to attend this special event.

## PREREGISTRATION AND ON-SITE REGISTRATION

Registration activities take place in the Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function area, Level 1 beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, and at other times as listed throughout the week. All convention attendees (both local and out-of-town) are asked to register. Those who preregistered for convention may pick up their registration packets in the area designated "Preregistration." Those who did not preregister may go to the area designated "Registration." Please have your check or cash ready to pay the registration fee of \$30 per person; **we cannot accept credit cards at registration.** Convention registration is a requirement for door prize eligibility and a number of other convention activities. We condition rates for hotel rooms on proof of registration, including the showing of an NFB registration badge, if requested.

## EXHIBIT HALL AND INDEPENDENCE MARKET

The Exhibit Hall and the NFB Independence Market are located in Sebastian Ballrooms K and L, Level 1. There is a special sponsor-only

exhibitor preview for convention attendees on Tuesday morning from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

**Exhibit Hall hours of operation are:**

Tuesday	9:00 to 11:00 AM (sponsors only)
Tuesday	11:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Wednesday	8:30 AM to 5:00 PM
Thursday	Noon to 1:45 PM and 7:00 to 9:00 PM
Friday	Noon to 1:45 PM (final opportunity to visit the Exhibit Hall)

**Independence Market hours of operation are:**

Tuesday	9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Wednesday	8:30 AM to 5:00 PM
Thursday	Noon to 1:45 PM
Friday	Noon to 1:45 PM (final opportunity to visit the Market)

## **THE CONVENTION QUEST**

In Braille, take the word for a female monarch, move two dots and you will have your watchword. If you enjoy puzzles, brain teasers, trivia, popping up in random locations to sing Federation songs, and having a good time with your friends, then this is for you! You will face many challenges, but the rewards are plentiful. To join in this unique and interactive experience, once you arrive at convention, please visit <http://quest.nfb.org>. For more information on how to play, please send an email to [quest@nfb.org](mailto:quest@nfb.org), or call (203) 364-4263.

## **READ INNACCESSIBLE PRINT AND PDFS WITH KNFB READER!**

KNFB Reader uses the power of digital photography and a specially designed mobile device app to read print on the go using your iOS, Android, or Windows 10 phone or tablet or your Windows 10 computer. Come see this award-winning, life-changing technology in our demonstration room any time on Tuesday or Wednesday from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. in Wekiwa 7, Level 2. Access that inaccessible print or PDF

with KNFB Reader—just point, shoot, and read!

### **SPECIAL ATTENTION ITEMS**

- The Presidential Suite (13217); Dr. Maurer's Suite (13216); and the Host Affiliate's Suite (11230) are all open during much of the convention. All are welcome to come to these suites to visit. Appointments to meet with President Riccobono may be made at the Presidential Suite.
- Banquet tickets may be purchased for \$65 by cash or check at the on-site registration area. No banquet tickets will be available after 2:00 p.m. on Thursday.

To attend the banquet, tickets must be exchanged by 2:00 p.m. on Thursday at the banquet exchange table. On the evening of the banquet, exchanged tickets will be required to enter the ballroom and will be collected at the tables. Tickets will be exchanged for a specific seat for yourself or for a group of up to ten people, as well as for vegetarian or kosher meal options.

- General sessions will be held in Sebastian Ballrooms I and J, Level 1.
- Individuals needing to conduct business with the NFB treasurer may do so by going to the Wekiwa Registration Desk, Level 2 on Thursday between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m., or on Friday between noon and 2:00 p.m.

# CONVENTION AGENDA



**MONDAY, JULY 10, 2017**

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**7:30 - 8:45 AM**—AMATEUR RADIO DIVISION—EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

**Suwannee 21, Level 2**

Discuss convention frequencies, hotel architectural features, and distribution of special FM receivers for the hearing-impaired and Spanish-speaking attendees. Rachel Olivero (AD9O), President

**7:30 AM - 4:45 PM**—#HOWWESEEIT: A CONFERENCE FOR FAMILIES AND TEACHERS OF BLIND/VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILDREN

Registration: Adults, \$40; Two or more adults, \$70; Children (to 18), free. Sponsored by NFB's National Organization of Parents of Blind Children Division (NOPBC). Kim Cunningham, President.

**Panzacola Ballroom F-1, Level 1**

7:30-8:45 AM—Registration

9:00-10:45 AM—General Session

11:00 AM-12:15 PM—NOPBC Concurrent Workshops, Session I

Essential 411: How to Optimize Your Convention Experience

—**Suwannee 18, Level 2**

Tips, Tricks, and Tools for Success in Elementary School

Math—**Suwannee 19, Level 2**

Stress Management for Parents—and Their Kids Too!—

**Suwannee 20, Level 2**

A Parent's Perspective on Raising a Blind Child with Autism—

**Suwannee 21, Level 2**

11:00 AM-1:00 PM—NOPBC Hands-On Technology Workshop, Technology Basics in Five Steps or Less (Low-Tech Session)—

**Suwannee 13, Level 2**

2:00-3:15 PM—NOPBC Concurrent Workshops, Session II

Using Google Drive, Google Docs, and Other Google Products in the Classroom—**Suwannee 18, Level 2**

You Are Your Child's First Teacher: Encouraging Play and Exploration in Early Childhood—**Suwannee 19, Level 2**

Tips, Tricks, and Tools for Surviving Higher Level Math—

**Suwannee 20, Level 2**

It's Recess Time: Encouraging Kids to Participate in Recess, Sports, and Other Social Activities—**Suwannee 21, Level 2**

2:00-4:00 PM—NOPBC Hands-On Technology Workshop,

Technology Basics in Five Steps or Less (High-Tech Session)—  
**Suwannee 13, Level 2**



**MONDAY, JULY 10, Continued**

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- 3:30-4:45 PM—NOPBC Concurrent Workshops Session III  
Remote Technology Instruction: What Is It, What Are Its Advantages, and How Can My Child Receive It?—**Suwannee 18, Level 2**  
Orientation and Mobility for the Young Blind Child—**Suwannee 19, Level 2**  
It Might Not Be a Braille Thing: Recognizing Possible Reading or Other Learning Disabilities in Blind Children—**Suwannee 20, Level 2**  
Learning to Drive: Take Control of Getting From Place to Place When Driving Yourself Is Not an Option—**Suwannee 21, Level 2**

**7:30 AM - 5:00 PM—CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN REHABILITATION AND EDUCATION FOR THE BLIND—SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REHABILITATION AND ORIENTATION & MOBILITY CONFERENCE**  
**Panzacola Ballroom F-2, Level 1**

7:30-8:30 AM—Registration  
8:30 AM—Conference begins  
Registration Fees: Students, \$75; Professionals, \$85 before June 15 (\$100 after that date applies).  
Sponsors: National Blindness Professional Certification Board (NBPCB) and the Professional Development & Research Institute on Blindness (PDRIB) at the Louisiana Tech University. Dr. Edward Bell, Chairperson

**8:30 AM—CHILDCARE SERVICES** (Preregistration by June 15 was required) **Suwannee 14, 15, 16, and 17, Level 2**  
Please see “Convention Note 6” for further information.

**8:30 - 11:30 AM—NEWEST JAWS FEATURES AND THE NEW FUSION RELEASE, JOINING ZOOMTEXT AND JAWS**

**Panzacola Ballroom H-3, Level 1**

Join Eric Damery, JAWS Product Manager, as we discuss and demonstrate the recent JAWS 18 release. We will be covering updates

on Google Docs and Office 365 work and discuss some of the new features coming in this year's JAWS release. Also, learn more about what we've just released with ZoomText Fusion and how this solution will benefit users who have some vision, but want to take advantage of JAWS at the same time.





## **MONDAY, JULY 10, Continued**

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### **8:30 AM - 5:00 PM—JERNIGAN INSTITUTE TECHNOLOGY SEMINARS Wekiwa 6, Level 2**

8:30-8:45 AM—OrCam-Wearable OCR and More

8:45-10:00 AM—Cutting the Cord: Accessibly Watching TV without a Cable Subscription

10:30 AM-Noon—Microsoft Office 365-Reinventing “Everyday” Productivity

1:30-3:00 PM—Web Browsing in the 21st Century

3:30-5:00 PM—Refreshable Braille Rumble: An Overview of Braille Display Support across OSs and Screen Readers

### **9:00 AM - 12:00 PM—ADOBE SESSION I Sebastian Ballroom I-3, Level 1**

Join Adobe representatives at one of three sessions this week. Each session begins with a presentation on both accessibility and product updates at Adobe. Attendees will then have opportunities to provide feedback on our products. We will focus on Acrobat Reader for iOS and Android and Adobe Sign but will be happy to discuss any Adobe products.

### **9:00 AM - 5:00 PM—STEM HANDS-ON SEMINAR PLUS TUTORIALS Suwannee 11, Level 2**

Learn proficiency in math, data analysis, efficient graphics production, and how to perform chemistry experiments as a blind person. You too can be a successful blind scientist with a career! Individual tutoring sessions offered throughout the week. See John Gardner for details.

### **10:00 AM - 2:00 PM—NF-BE HEALTHY FAIR Sebastian Ballroom J, Level 1**

Join the NFB Sports & Recreation Division and WE Fit Wellness for a hands-on health and exercise experience. Learn about *your* health, donate blood, check out accessible activity trackers and other health devices, and try some fun activities like sword fighting, cardio drumming, goalball, and more.

### **11:00 AM - 12:15 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS (Ages 11-18) Wekiwa 1 and 2, Level 2**

A Little Bit about Me





## **MONDAY, JULY 10, Continued**

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### **12:30 - 4:00 PM—JOB SEEKER SEMINAR**

#### **Sebastian Ballroom I-2, Level 1**

Load up with ammunition for your job hunt! Expert advice and great ideas from NFB training centers, agencies, and employers. Includes breakouts and networking. Set your sights for the NFB National Job Fair. Sponsored by the NFB Employment Committee, Dick Davis, Chairperson.

### **1:00 - 3:00 PM—HANDS-ON ELBRAILLE SESSION, COME EXPERIENCE THE FIRST BRAILLE NOTETAKER RUNNING WIN 10 AND JAWS**

#### **Panzacola Ballroom H-3, Level 1**

The most exciting new notetaker is on sale this year at the booth, with HOME USE PROGRAM pricing of 20 percent off. Bring your FOCUS 14 to this session, along with your JAWS serial number, and we'll help you get your new unit all setup. Or just come by and give it a test drive and talk to the experts to learn all the details on both the 14 and 40 cell models.

### **1:00 - 4:00 PM—ADOBE SESSION II**

#### **Sebastian Ballroom I-3, Level 1**

### **1:00 - 4:00 PM—SENIORS DIVISION SEMINAR—A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A NEWLY BLIND SENIOR (\$5)**

#### **Wekiwa 4, Level 2**

Join Diane McGeorge and the Senior Division to explore this all-important topic. Learn about strategies that work and share your ideas; hands-on demos, discussion-paring tools, and useful techniques. Cost is \$5 per person to support the division. Ruth Sager, President

### **1:00 - 5:00 PM—CANINE WELLNESS AND ACCESS INS & OUTS**

#### **Panzacola Ballroom F-2, Level 1**

1:00 PM—Registration

2:00 PM—Presentations

A veterinarian will share information about maintaining optimal health throughout your dog's life, including wellness, preventive care, grooming tips, and first aid. Also learn about the rights and responsibilities of both guide dog users and the businesses they frequent. Marion Gwizdala, President, National Association of Guide Dog Users Division





## **MONDAY, JULY 10, Continued**

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### **1:00 - 5:00 PM—HUMANWARE PRODUCT SHOWCASE AND USER GROUPS**

#### **Wekiwa 5, Level 2**

1:00-3:00 PM—BrailleNote Touch: Come join us for a presentation of the world's first Google-certified Braille tablet. Learn about the updates and enhancements to this innovative device along with what is yet to come this year.

3:00-4:00 PM—Victor Reader Stream: Come share your experiences with other Stream users and learn about something new and exciting coming to the Victor family.

4:00-5:00 PM—Innovations of the Future: An open forum for you to provide your technology ideas and offer feedback to our experts.

### **2:00 - 4:45 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS (Ages 11-18)**

#### **Wekiwa 1 and 2, Level 2**

Let's Talk Tech and Social Media

### **3:00 - 8:30 PM—SPORTS & RECREATION WORKSHOPS**

#### **Panzacola Ballroom H-4, Level 1**

3:00-4:30 PM and 5:00-6:30 PM—1Touch Self Defense Workshops (\$10 per session): Come experience self-defense designed with blind people in mind!

7:00-8:30 PM—Essential Oils 101; Natural Solutions for Healthy Living: Come learn how essential oils offer natural solutions for weight management, stress, sleep, anxiety, depression, pain, sinuses, or allergy issues.

Sponsored by the Sports & Recreation Division, Jessica Beecham, President.

### **3:00 - 6:00 PM—GOOGLE PRODUCT DEMONSTRATION**

#### **Wekiwa 3, Level 2**

3:00 PM—Android Accessibility: Join Maya Ben Ari for an overview of Android accessibility and recent updates. Learn about the latest developments in TalkBack and the Android operating system.

3:45 PM—Google Home: Discover the many capabilities of Google Home, the eyes-free Google Assistant device designed to enhance your home environment. Speaker, Kiran Kaja

4:30 PM—G Suite Accessibility: Join Roger Benz to learn more about the latest accessibility improvements to G Suite apps, including Google Docs, Google Drive, Google Calendar, and more.



## **MONDAY, JULY 10, Continued**

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5:15 PM—Chromebook Accessibility: Join Laura Palmaro to learn about the accessibility features built into every Chromebook, and deep dive into the new ChromeVox screen reader.

### **5:00 - 7:00 PM—HISPANIC SEMINAR**

#### **Wekiwa 4, Level 2**

Blindness is blindness, no matter what the language. Meet new and old friends; learn about Federation philosophy and the truth about blindness—in Spanish. Alpidio Rolón, Moderator

### **5:00 - 7:30 PM—MIX-AND-MINGLE RECEPTION FOR REHABILITATION PROFESSIONALS**

#### **Panzacola Ballroom H-2, Level 1**

### **5:30 - 7:00 PM—NOPBC FAMILY HOSPITALITY**

#### **Panzacola Ballroom F-1, Level 1**

Relax, snack, chat, meet new families and teachers, and connect with old friends. Veteran attendees will be on hand to welcome you and provide information. Free admission with 2017 NOPBC Conference name badge:

\$15 per adult, \$5 per child without badge. Pizza and lemonade will be served. Cosponsored by the National Organization of Professionals in Blindness Education, a Division of the NFB.

### **5:30 - 7:00 PM—NFB LIONS GROUP**

#### **Wekiwa 5, Level 2**

Lions Clubs International has a primary goal to assist blind people and prevent blindness. Lions need and are generally receptive to input from and involvement of blind people. Featured speaker is Past International Director Robert Littlefield from Multiple District 5. Lions and prospective Lions are welcome. Ramona Walhof and Milton Ota, Co-Chairpersons

### **6:00 - 10:00 PM—LIVING THE GUIDE DOG USER LIFE YOU WANT!**

#### **Panzacola Ballroom F-2, Level 1**

6:00 PM—Registration

## 7:00 PM—Presentations

Learn more about guide dogs in three consecutive sessions: Teaching the Guide Dog Team New Tricks, Harness Up: The Process of Getting a Guide Dog and Beyond, and Guide Dog Show and Tail. Marion Gwizdala, President, National Association of Guide Dog Users Division



## **MONDAY, JULY 10, Continued**

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### **6:00 - 8:30 PM—PROMOTION, EVALUATION, AND ADVANCEMENT OF TECHNOLOGY**

#### **Panzacola Ballroom H-3, Level 1**

Hear exhibitors explain briefly what they are exhibiting and where they are located in the Exhibit Hall. Come explore ways to evaluate new products; everyone is welcome. Mark Jones, Chairperson

### **6:30 - 8:00 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS (Ages 11-18)**

#### **Wekiwa 1 and 2, Level 2**

To Be or Not To Be Blind: That is the Question

### **6:30 - 10:00 PM—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLIND OFFICE PROFESSIONALS**

#### **Suwannee 19, Level 2**

6:30 PM—Registration

Learn about assistive technology in the workplace, training opportunities, and any job announcements available. Lisa Hall, President

### **7:00 - 8:00 PM—AIRA - HOW IS TECHNOLOGY AND AUGMENTED REALITY DISRUPTING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE BLIND?**

#### **Wekiwa 3, Level 2**

Learn how Aira is ushering in an exciting new stage in assistive technology through the use of wearable smart glass devices and cutting-edge video and data streaming technologies to assist the blind in a wide range of daily activities. Augmented reality and artificial intelligence combine to render a new level of personal assistance.

### **7:00 - 8:00 PM—IMAGINATION FUND**

#### **Sebastian I-3, Level 1**

Learn about the new text-to-give campaign along with the Imagination Fund Committee's fundraising plans for the coming year. Everette Bacon, Chairperson

**7:00 - 8:30 PM**—LIVING HISTORY GROUP

**Suwannee 20, Level 2**

Dedicated to recording, preserving, and appreciating Federation history. Michael Freholm, Chairperson





## **MONDAY, JULY 10, Continued**

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### **8:00 - 9:00 PM—WHITE CANE AND AFFILIATE FINANCE COMMITTEE Wekiwa 4, Level 2**

Are there new and ingenious ways to collect money and spread the word about the NFB? I'm sure there are. Come and share your ideas on how to fund our movement. Alpidio Rolón, Chairperson

### **8:00 - 9:30 PM—ROOKIE ROUNDUP Panzacola Ballroom G-1, Level 1**

First-time convention attendees—don't miss this event! President Riccobono and former rookies will be on hand to welcome you and answer questions about the week's activities. Pam Allen, Director of the Louisiana Center for the Blind, President of the NFB of Louisiana, Chairperson and Vice President of the Board of Directors of the National Federation of the Blind

### **8:00 - 10:00 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS (Ages 11-14) Wekiwa 1, Level 2**

It's Cool to Be in Middle School

### **8:00 - 11:00 PM—NABS STUDENT NETWORKING Wekiwa 7, Level 2**

Drop in to the National Association of Blind Students (NABS) networking event to make some new friends or reconnect with old ones. Come chat with NABS members and leaders about our division or anything else that's on your mind. Join us for some fun to kick off the convention week! Kathryn Webster, President

### **8:00 PM - Midnight—KARAOKE NIGHT 🎵 🎵 (Admission: \$6) Panzacola Ballroom F-3 and F-4, Level 1**

Here's your chance to sing like a rock star and help support BLIND, Inc. youth programs! Enjoy music, door prizes, and a cash bar as you learn about BLIND, Inc. Show us your talent! Hosted by BLIND, Incorporated.

### **9:00 - 10:00 PM—NFB AMBASSADORS COMMITTEE MEETING Wekiwa 10, Level 2**

Dan Burke, Chairperson



**TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2017**

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**9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**—PREREGISTRATION PACKET PICKUP  
**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

**9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**—REGISTRATION (\$30) AND BANQUET TICKET SALES (\$65)  
**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

**9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**—INDEPENDENCE MARKET  
**Sebastian Ballrooms K and L, Level 1**

**9:00 - 11:00 AM**—SPONSOR-LEVEL EXHIBITORS PREVIEW  
**Sebastian Ballroom K and L, Level 1**

The Exhibit Hall opens its doors and is dedicated solely to sponsor-level exhibitors. Come to say “thank you” to our sponsors and enjoy their interesting offers and demonstrations. Our exhibiting convention sponsors are:

**Platinum:**

Aira & AT&T; Google, Inc.; Microsoft; Oracle; OrCam; UPS; Vanda Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; VFO: Ai Squared/Freedom Scientific/Optelec

**Gold:**

Brown, Goldstein & Levy, LLP; iSenpai, LLC; JPMorgan Chase & Co.; Target; Uber Technologies, Inc.

**Silver:**

Amazon; Dropbox; HumanWare; Market Development Group, Inc.; Pearson; Sprint

**Bronze:**

Charter Communications; Facebook; National Industries for the Blind; VitalSource Technologies, LLC; Wells Fargo

**White Cane:**

BAUM (USA) Inc.; C&P - Chris Park Design; Disability Relations Group; Duxbury Systems, Inc; Educational Testing Service; Envision, Inc.; En-Vision America, Inc.; HIMSS; iFactory; Lyft, Inc.; OHFA Tech, Inc.; Rosen Bien Galvan & Grunfeld, LLP; TRE Legal Practice





## **TUESDAY, JULY 11, Continued**

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### **9:30 - 11:30 AM—NFB NATIONAL JOB FAIR Panzacola Ballroom F-3 and F-4, Level 1**

The job hunt begins. This job fair is different, because these employers want to hire blind people. Dress for success (we mean it), bring a polished résumé, and prepare to talk about yourself. Attend the Job Seeker and Upward Mobility Seminars first to prepare. Interview prep available. We had five Fortune 500 employers in 2016 and expect more in 2017. From 200 to 300 blind job seekers attend. Sponsored by the NFB Employment Committee, Dick Davis, Chairperson

### **11:00 AM - 5:00 PM—EXHIBIT HALL Sebastian Ballrooms K and L, Level 1**

### **1:00 - 2:30 PM—MASTER THE BASICS OF MANAGING YOUR MONEY Wekiwa 10, Level 2**

In this session, you'll discover the benefits of using a financial institution, opening checking and savings accounts, and keeping good track of your money. Learn how to choose checking and savings accounts that are right for you; make purchases and pay bills with ATM cards, debit cards and checks; track and manage your transactions; and avoid or minimize fees. In addition, learn the basics of budgeting and gain access to tools to help you create a personal spending plan.

### **1:00 - 4:00 PM—ADOBE SESSION III Sebastian Ballroom I-3, Level 1**

### **1:00 - 4:00 PM—NOPBC YOUTH STYLE SHOW Wekiwa 8, Level 2**

1:00-2:30 PM—Rehearsal

2:45 PM—Style Show Begins

Our young blind models and NFB stars strut their stuff on the runway. We extend a special invitation to our kids with additional disabilities. Come enjoy the fashions and music and support NOPBC. Tickets \$5 at the door. Laura Bostick, First Vice President, NOPBC, and Kim Cunningham, President, NOPBC

### **1:00 - 4:00 PM—BLIND MUSICIANS GROUP Suwannee 19, Level 2**

Share tips and ideas, ask questions, and network with other blind musicians. Parents are welcome. Linda Mentink, Chairperson



## **TUESDAY, JULY 11, Continued**

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**1:00 PM - 5:00 PM**—DEAF-BLIND: STRENGTH IN NUMBERS CREATES CHANGE

**Wekiwa 9, Level 2**

Join our workshops designed to give unique solutions and create positive changes for those who live with a combined loss of hearing/sight: SSP services, air travel, communication cards related to safe travel, and employment accommodations. Sponsored by the NFB Deaf-Blind Division, Alice Eaddy, President

**1:00 - 5:00 PM**—BLIND CANCER SURVIVORS SUPPORT GROUP

**Suwannee 18, Level 2**

Join us for a meet and greet, a panel discussion, and personal stories of strength and courage. Our group's purposes are to help all cancer survivors get well and stay well, to offer preventive measures, and to create a platform for cohesive dialogue and information dissemination. Isaiah Nelson, Coordinator

**1:00 PM - 5:00 PM**—AMAZON KINDLE AND DEVICE ACCESSIBILITY

**Panzacola Ballroom F-1, Level 1**

An exploration of recent updates to Kindle reading experiences, Amazon Fire TV, Fire Tablet, Alexa and more. Amazon will demonstrate improvements in screen reader support for Kindle on PC and their own screen reader VoiceView on Fire Tablets, as well as support for Braille reading on Fire Tablets, and unveil updates to Fire TV and the Alexa voice service.

**1:00 PM - 6:00 PM**—KNFB READER: THE COOL TOOL FOR WORK & SCHOOL

**Wekiwa 7, Level 2**

Witness the power of the fastest and most accurate print-reading app in person at our KNFB Reader demonstration. Enter a drawing to win a free copy of KNFB Reader while you try it for yourself firsthand. Now available for Windows 10 tablets, computers, and phones!

**1:00 - 6:00 PM**—NFB-NEWSLINE® DEMONSTRATION OPEN HOUSE

**Wekiwa 7, Level 2**

NFB-NEWSLINE's four hundred publications, including sixty magazines, can help you become a part of your community's conversation and live the life you want. Our NFB-NEWSLINE experts are here to answer your questions. Not a subscriber? We can sign you up on the spot!



## **TUESDAY, JULY 11, Continued**

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### **1:00 - 8:30 PM—SPORTS & RECREATION DIVISION WORKSHOPS**

#### **Sebastian I-2 Ballroom, Level 1**

1:00-2:30 PM—Traditional Japanese Sword Fighting

You saw it at the NF-BE Healthy Fair, now come get a more in-depth lesson in nonvisual techniques.

3:00-4:30 PM and 5:00-6:30 PM—1Touch Self Defense Workshops (\$10 per session)

7:00-8:30 PM—Yoga and Mindfulness

Bring a matt or towel from your room and wind down with us during this yoga and mindfulness session! This is your chance to try out yoga with a descriptive instructor in a completely nonjudgmental space.

Sponsored by the Sports & Recreation Division, Jessica Beecham, President

### **1:00 - 8:30 PM—INSPIRING ARTISTS, BEGINNERS TO PROS**

#### **Panzacola Ballroom H-4, Level 1**

1:00-5:00 PM—Drop-in Activities

5:00-7:00 PM—Art Exhibit

7:00-8:30 PM—Artist Panel Discussion

Experience tactile art as a creative way to gather and share information and ideas. Visitors are invited to explore sculptures and other tactile art forms on display. This open art room offers free tools and materials for sculpting and tactile drawing. Deborah Kent Stein and Ann Cunningham, Coordinators

### **1:00 PM—RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**

#### **Sebastian Ballroom J, Level 1**

Sharon Maneki, Chairperson

### **2:15 - 3:00 PM—DOES IT REALLY WORK? HEAR FROM AIRA USERS AND AGENTS AS THEY SHARE REAL WORLD AND CANDID EXPERIENCES**

#### **Wekiwa 3, Level 2**

Hear directly from Aira users who will share how Aira is changing the

game in assistive technology. Aira agents will also talk about their journey and the emotional and intense experiences that come from hundreds of daily sessions assisting the blind and visually impaired.



## **TUESDAY, JULY 11, Continued**

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### **2:30 - 5:00 PM—PROFESSIONALS IN BLINDNESS EDUCATION**

#### **Wekiwa 5, Level 2**

2:30 PM—Registration

3:00 PM—Meeting

All professionals working with students from birth through age twenty-one are welcome and encouraged to join our informative and interactive meeting. Come network and collaborate, sharing and learning with colleagues and future educators. Eric Guillory, President

### **3:00 - 4:00 PM—HANDS-ON PHOTO AND VIDEO WORKSHOP**

#### **Suwannee 20, Level 2**

Join us for hands-on photo and video training. Learn what makes a good photo or video and how to get the most out of them. Bring whatever device you have for capturing photo and video. We'll show you how you can use any tool to serve your photo and video needs. Stephanie Eller, Facilitator

### **3:00 - 4:30 PM—USING CREDIT TO YOUR ADVANTAGE**

#### **Wekiwa 10, Level 2**

Want to hear some good news? If you do a careful job of managing your money over time, understand how credit works, and use it wisely, you'll gain the ability to borrow money when you need it. In this session, you'll start at the beginning and learn the basics of credit, including information on credit scores, how to obtain and read a credit report, and how to establish a good credit history. In addition, you'll learn how to use your credit to your advantage to help you achieve your goals and dreams. Attend this session to learn about the types of loans available, how to shop for, compare and choose a loan product, how to choose a lender, and how to protect yourself from risk.

### **4:00 - 5:00 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS (Ages 11-18)**

#### **Wekiwa 1, Level 2**

Mocktail Party

### **4:15 - 5:45 PM—TWENTIETH ANNUAL MOCK TRIAL (Admission: \$5)**

#### **Panzacola Ballroom G-1, Level 1**

Federation lawyers oppose each other to enact a case addressing the civil rights of blind people, and the audience serves as the jury. The subject matter is serious, but the courtroom portrayals are very



entertaining. Scott LaBarre, President, National Association of Blind Lawyers



## **TUESDAY, JULY 11, Continued**

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**5:00 - 10:00 PM**—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLIND VETERANS  
RECEPTION AND MEETING

**Panzacola Ballroom H-2, Level 1**

5:00-7:00 PM—Veterans Reception with Food and Cash Bar

7:00-10:00 PM—Annual Meeting

All veterans and interested parties are invited to attend. Veterans' issues will be discussed, opening session Veterans Celebration assignments will be given including the Color Guard. Dues will be collected and biannual election of officers will be held. Dwight Sayer, President

**5:30 - 7:00 PM**—NFB AFFILIATE PRESIDENTS AND TREASURERS  
SEMINAR

**Wekiwa 5, Level 2**

All state affiliate presidents and treasurers are asked to attend this session. Topics will include state financials, state and federal filings, year-end preparations, and national fundraising programs. Participants can discuss state issues with facilitators Nick Lambright and Bridgid Burke.

**5:30 - 8:00 PM**—NOPBC FAMILY POOLSIDE SOCIAL

Join us for swimming and socialization. All family members are welcome. We will meet at the zero entry family pool! (Rain location in **Wekiwa 2, Level 2**)

**6:00 - 10:00 PM**—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION TO PROMOTE THE USE  
OF BRAILLE

**Wekiwa 9, Level 2**

6:00 PM—Registration

Learn about Braille-related research, discuss current projects with vendors who produce Braille through hard copy and technology, UEB progress, and develop strategies for strengthening our division. Steve Booth, President

**6:00 - 10:30 PM**—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLIND STUDENTS  
(NABS)

**Panzacola Ballroom G-1, Level 1**

6:00 PM—Registration (\$5)

7:00 PM—Meeting begins promptly

Students, young professionals, parents, teachers, and anyone interested in learning about issues affecting blind students are welcome and encouraged to attend. It promises to be informative, engaging, and fun! Join our students from across the country to learn together and discuss general business of this flourishing division!

Kathryn Webster, President



## **TUESDAY, JULY 11, Continued**

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**7:00 - 8:00 PM**—AIRA & EMPLOYMENT: HOW AIRA COULD HELP YOU LAUNCH YOUR NEXT CAREER

**Wekiwa 3, Level 2**

If you're looking for ways to expand your employment potential, this is the session for you! Join us as we talk about how Aira is working with employers, employees, and potential hires to bridge the hiring gap.

**7:00 - 8:30 PM**—PUBLIC EMPLOYEES DIVISION

**Suwannee 19, Level 2**

Come learn about issues facing employees of federal, state, and municipal government, as well as public schools and public utility commissions. Find out about government jobs and self-advocacy. Ivan Weich, President

**7:00 - 9:00 PM**—AFFILIATE PRESIDENTS NETWORKING SOCIAL

**Sebastian Ballroom I-1, Level 1**

Come together with current and past affiliate presidents to network and share experiences on leading an affiliate and what it means to be a Federation leader. Shawn Callaway, Coordinator

**7:00 - 9:00 PM**—KNFB READER LIAISON MEETING

**Wekiwa 7, Level 2**

All KNFB Reader Liaisons are requested to attend this meeting. We will be providing training, reviewing presentation materials, discussing target audiences, and answering questions. Please bring your device(s), your ideas, and your questions!

**7:00 - 9:00 PM**—LEGISLATIVE MEET UP

**Wekiwa 6, Level 2**

A recap of Washington Seminar, a run-down of priorities, and an opportunity for legislative directors to share with one another strategies to move our legislative priorities at the local, state, and federal levels. Gabe Cazares, Kimie Beverly, and Dylan Hedtler-Gaudette, NFB Government Affairs Team

**7:30 - 9:00 PM**—LIBRARY SERVICES COMMITTEE

**Wekiwa 8, Level 2**

Come and discuss what services there are and what they could be. Learn about new additions to the Library of Congress's National Library

Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) and other accessible book programs. David Hyde, Chairperson



## **TUESDAY, JULY 11, Continued**

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### **7:30 - 9:30 PM—BLIND PARENTS GROUP**

#### **Wekiwa 4, Level 2**

Blind parents share their experiences with child-raising issues, such as learning infant care, coping with printed homework assignments, finding print-Braille books, dealing with the public's misconceptions, and more. Deborah Kent Stein, Chairperson

### **8:00 - 9:00 PM—JUDAISM MEETING**

#### **Suwannee 18, Level 2**

David Stayer, Chairperson, NFB in Judaism Group

### **8:00 - 10:00 PM—MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING**

#### **Wekiwa 5, Level 2**

You're invited! If you are interested in finding ways to discover potential members while keeping current members engaged and interested, this is the meeting for you! Sharing our best practices across the Federation will take our chapters, affiliates, and our national organization to the next level. Chairperson, Jeannie Massay

### **9:00 - 10:00 PM—SPANISH TRANSLATION COMMITTEE**

#### **Wekiwa 10, Level 2**

We provide simultaneous translation into Spanish during the general sessions of the convention and lead other Spanish initiatives for the Federation. Please join us if you would like to help with this effort. Conchita Hernandez, Chairperson



**WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2017**

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**8:30 AM - 5:00 PM—PREREGISTRATION PACKET PICKUP**  
**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

**8:30 AM - 5:00 PM—REGISTRATION (\$30) AND BANQUET TICKET SALES (\$65)**  
**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

**8:30 AM - 5:00 PM—EXHIBIT HALL and INDEPENDENCE MARKET**  
**Sebastian Ballrooms K and L, Level 1**

**9:00 - 11:30 AM—NFB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (Open to All)**  
**Sebastian Ballrooms I and J, Level 1**

**12:30 - 4:00 PM—NFB DEAF-BLIND DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING**  
**Wekiwa 9, Level 2**

Get updates on national issues affecting the deaf-blind community, technology, and the division's business matters. Election of officers. Alice Eaddy, President

**12:30 - 4:00 PM—SPORTS & RECREATION DIVISION MEETING**  
**Panzacola G-2, Level 1**

12:30 PM—Registration

1:00 PM—Meeting

Join us for a high energy meeting full of demonstrations, information on helpful health and wellness tools, and motivation to get you moving! Learn how the Sports and Rec Division can support your pursuit of health and wellness! Jessica Beecham, President

**12:30 - 4:00 PM—NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF BLIND EDUCATORS**  
**Wekiwa 10, Level 2**

Blind teachers discuss techniques they use in their classrooms. Participants also meet in groups specific to grade level and content areas of interest to create a network of mentors. If you teach or are considering a career in teaching at any level, please join us. Cayte Mendez, President



## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, Continued**

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### **12:30 - 4:30 PM—WHAT'S NEW FROM SENIORS? OUR RETREAT! Wekiwa 6, Level 2**

12:30 PM—Registration (\$5)

1:30 PM—Meeting

Come to the Seniors Division annual meeting and learn about blindness skills training through our Senior Retreat Program. We teach each other about the truth of living with blindness and aging. Hear seniors tell their stories on how to live the lives they want. Silent Auction. Ruth Sager, President

### **12:30 - 5:00 PM—DIABETES ACTION NETWORK SEMINAR Suwannee 11, Level 2**

12:30 PM—Registration

Learn about new accessible diabetes equipment coming to market and strategies for living well with diabetes. Division officer and board member elections will be held. Bernadette Jacobs, President

### **12:30 - 5:00 PM—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLIND LAWYERS Panzacola Ballroom H-3, Level 1**

12:30 PM—Registration

Examine laws affecting blind people and others with disabilities; address ongoing struggles to gain equal access to websites, employment, legal texts, and exams; share practice tips for blind lawyers. Scott LaBarre, President

### **12:30 - 5:00 PM—NFB IN COMPUTER SCIENCE Wekiwa 4, Level 2**

12:30 PM—Registration

Enhancing nonvisual access to information technology and improving the ability of blind information and computer technology professionals to compete in today's world. Brian Buhrow, President

### **12:30 - 5:00 PM—NFB IN COMMUNITIES OF FAITH Suwannee 19, Level 2**

12:30 PM—Registration

Speakers will tell how their faith has helped them face and overcome challenges; also hear representatives from various faith-based libraries and publishing houses describe what their organizations do. Tom Anderson, President

**1:00 - 4:00 PM**—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS (Ages 11-18)

**Wekiwa 1 and 2, Level 2**

Come Learn About All Things STEM!



**WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, Continued**

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**1:00 - 4:00 PM**—NOPBC MEETING

**Panzacola Ballroom F-1, Level 1**

Keynote address by the 2017 Distinguished Educator of Blind Children; talks on accessible science, art, textbooks, games, technology, programs for kids, Parent Power, business meeting, elections, and more. Kim Cunningham, President

**1:00 - 4:00 PM**—PERFORMING ARTS DIVISION

**Suwannee 21, Level 2**

Express yourself! This meeting will feature a panel on expression and movement on stage. Then we will practice what we've learned in our hour of improv. Julie McGinnity, President

**1:00 - 4:30 PM**—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLIND MERCHANTS

**Panzacola Ballroom F-2, Level 1**

"With Challenges Come New Opportunities." Randolph-Sheppard faces some of its greatest challenges in years, but with that comes opportunities for new entrepreneurial initiatives, including the private sector and franchising. Nicky Gacos, President

**1:00 - 5:00 PM**—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLIND REHABILITATION PROFESSIONALS

**Wekiwa 5, Level 2**

1:00 PM—Registration

Network, share mutual interests, find placement strategies, and examine and discuss concerns and current issues. Melody Roane, President

**1:00 - 5:00 PM**—HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION

**Suwannee 20, Level 2**

1:00 PM—Registration (\$5)

2:00-5:00 PM—Division Meeting

We are a diverse group of blind professionals, paraprofessionals, and students pursuing careers as social workers, mental health counselors, psychologists, and other allied health professions. Please join us for our

biennial elections and to network during our last hour. Merry C. Schoch, President





## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, Continued**

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**1:00 - 6:00 PM**—KNFB READER: THE COOL TOOL FOR WORK & SCHOOL

**Wekiwa 7, Level 2**

Witness the power of the fastest and most accurate print reading app in person at our KNFB Reader demonstration. Enter a drawing to win a free copy of KNFB Reader while you try it for yourself first hand. Now available for Windows 10 tablets, computers, and phones!

**1:00 - 6:00 PM**—NFB-NEWSLINE® DEMONSTRATION OPEN HOUSE

**Wekiwa 7, Level 2**

NFB-NEWSLINE®'s four hundred publications, including sixty magazines, can help you become a part of your community's conversation and live the life you want. Our NFB-NEWSLINE® experts are here to answer your questions. Not a subscriber? We can sign you up on the spot!

**1:00 - 8:30 PM**—INSPIRING ARTISTS, BEGINNERS TO PROS

**Panzacola Ballroom H-4, Level 1**

1:00-5:00 PM—Drop-in Activities

5:00-7:00 PM—Art Exhibit

7:00-8:30 PM—Hands-on Workshop for NOPBC and TVIs

Experience tactile art as a creative way to gather and share information and ideas. Visitors are invited to explore sculptures and other tactile art forms on display. This open art room offers free tools and materials. Deborah Kent Stein and Ann Cunningham, Coordinators

**4:00 - 6:00 PM**—UNITED BLIND INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF AMERICA

**Wekiwa 8, Level 2**

Join your Federation colleagues for a wide-ranging discussion about improving working conditions and wages for all blind workers, and developing strategies to ensure that all disabled workers are paid at least the minimum wage. Sandy Halverson, President

**4:30 - 5:30 PM**—SOCIAL MEDIA BASICS FOR YOUR AFFILIATE

**Suwannee 13, Level 2**

Learn the basics of utilizing social media for your affiliate or division (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube), including the pros and cons of each platform, the best content to post, and how to make sure it's all on brand. Stephanie Eller, Facilitator





## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, Continued**

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### **4:30 - 10:00 PM—SPORTS & RECREATION DIVISION WORKSHOPS Panzacola Ballroom G-2, Level 1**

4:30-6:00 PM—Anywhere, Anytime, Exercise Solutions

Join us to learn body weight exercises that you can do anywhere, anytime, and with no equipment! Sponsored by NFB Sports and Rec

6:00-7:30 PM and 8:00-9:30 PM—1Touch Self Defense Workshops (\$10 per session)

Sponsored by the Sports & Recreation Division. Jessica Beecham, President

### **5:00 - 6:30 PM—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLIND LAWYERS RECEPTION**

#### **Panzacola Ballroom H-2, Level 1**

For NABL Division members and seminar participants only; to promote networking and fellowship within our membership. Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar are available. Scott LaBarre, President

### **5:00 - 7:00 PM—BRAILLE BOOK FAIR PRESENTING SPONSOR WELLS FARGO**

#### **Panzacola Ballrooms F-3 and F-4, Level 1**

Browse tables of new and used Braille and print/Braille books. There will be fiction, nonfiction, early readers through multi-volume novels, cookbooks, and more. Through a collaboration with our Literacy Partner, the Wells Fargo Foundation, the books are offered at no cost to the reader. Volunteers will box and prepare them to be shipped to the reader's home via Free Matter for the Blind. Donations are encouraged. Krystal Guillory, Coordinator

### **5:00 - 8:00 PM—NFB LGBT MEETING AND SOCIAL Wekiwa 9, Level 2**

Building the Federation and giving back with pride! Panels will discuss reaching out to families & youth, access to LGBT information, & involvement in local pride events. A 7PM social will follow. Tai Tomasi, Coordinator, (515) 329-4908

### **5:30 - 6:30 PM—MAKING SOCIAL MEDIA WORK HARDER FOR YOUR AFFILIATE Suwannee 13, Level 2**

Learn how to make your social media presence work harder for your chapter or affiliate. We'll discuss the content that will most engage your audience, ways to effectively amplify our message, and how to evaluate posts effectiveness through analytics. Stephanie Eller, Facilitator



## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, Continued**

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**5:30 - 7:00 PM**—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS (Ages 14-18)

**Wekiwa 1 and 2, Level 2**

Dating 101

**6:00 - 7:00 PM**—FCC'S ACCESSIBILITY LAWS FOR TELEVISION

**Wekiwa 6, Level 2**

Hear about the current state of accessible televisions, set-top boxes, and similar devices that play back video programming. Learn how to request and use accessible TV interfaces. Will Schell, Attorney Advisor, Disability Rights Office, Federal Communications Commission

**6:00 - 10:00 PM**—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GUIDE DOG USERS

**Panzacola Ballroom F-2, Level 1**

6:00-6:45 PM—Registration

7:00 PM—Call to Order

Celebrate our successes in education and advocacy on behalf of guide dog users. Be the first to download Version 2.0 of the NAGDU mobile app for iOS & Android as we take a guided tour. Learn more about our Uber/Lyft settlement and how you can be a part of change. Elect our leaders! Marion Gwizdala, President

**6:00 - 10:00 PM**—NFB COMMUNITY SERVICE DIVISION

**Wekiwa 10, Level 2**

6:00 PM—Registration (\$5)

6:30 PM—Seminar and Business Meeting

Learn how to find or make your own service projects, gain tools to organize your own state efforts, discover how you can live the life you want through serving your community, no matter your age or circumstance; and find out what the division has been up to in the past year. Let's get involved! Darian Smith, President

**6:30 - 10:00 PM**—SCIENCE & ENGINEERING DIVISION

**Suwannee 21, Level 2**

6:30 PM—Registration

7:00 PM—Meeting

Learn techniques for gardening, performing biology and chemistry labs, and analyzing engineering data sets. Learn how to gain access to graphics and mathematical material. Contact John Gardner at [john.gardner@viewplus.com](mailto:john.gardner@viewplus.com) regarding one-on-one STEM tutorials. John Miller, President



## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, Continued**

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### **6:30 - 10:00 PM—ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TRAINERS DIVISION Suwannee 11, Level 2**

6:30 PM—Registration

Learn about developments in collaboration software from Google & others, structured discovery in the communication classroom, the evolution of technology, choosing the best device for the task. Hear about the Orbit Reader. Help shape the division's future. See you there. Registration \$5 for members-only benefits. Nancy Coffman, Coordinator

### **7:00 - 8:00 PM—AIRA TECH TALK: THE CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY BEHIND AIRA'S INNOVATIVE SERVICE**

#### **Wekiwa 3, Level 2**

If you're a technology fan or simply curious about the Aira solution, you won't want to miss this unique session! Listen to the creative minds behind Aira technology explain the challenges and innovations necessary to deliver the Aira experience along with their vision and thoughts on what's next to come.

### **7:00 - 8:30 PM—"ALL SHOT" (An original play by Jerry Whittle; \$5 admission fee; one performance only)**

#### **Panzacola Ballroom G-1, Level 1**

Rody Salley, an aging and blind former major league baseball player, returns to his childhood home for his final years. He encounters his daughter after many years of separation. He finds a new purpose for his life.

### **7:00 - 9:00 PM—CHAPTER PRESIDENTS' CHAPTER MEETING**

#### **Wekiwa 5, Level 2**

All chapter presidents attending national convention are invited and encouraged to attend the ultimate chapter meeting. Experience a live

presidential release, discover what your chapter meetings may be missing and how to get the business of the Federation done while having fun! Jeannie Massay, Coordinator

**7:00 - 9:00 PM—EMPOWERING UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS**

**Wekiwa 8, Level 2**

If you are feeling underserved, come and be heard! Get empowered to live the life you want! Ron Brown, Chairperson, Committee to Empower Underserved Populations



## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, Continued**

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### **7:00 - 9:00 PM—NFB KRAFTERS DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING Suwannee 18, Level 2**

Join us to hear about our telephone conference classes taught by blind and visually impaired crafters and learn about our email classes. Become a paid member and take as many classes as you would like through July 2018. Joyce Kane, President

### **7:00 - 10:00 PM—BALLROOM DANCING WORKSHOPS Panzacola Ballroom F-1, Level 1**

7:00 PM—Registration (\$5)

7:15 PM—Rumba Lesson

8:30 PM—Waltz Lesson

Take the first step and learn to conquer the dance floor with romantic rumba and elegant waltz! No partner or prior dance experience needed; all welcome! Katelyn MacIntyre, Vice President, NFB Performing Arts Division

### **7:00 - 10:00 PM—NFB-NEWSLINE® SEMINAR FOR STATE COORDINATORS**

#### **Wekiwa 7, Level 2**

All NFB-NEWSLINE state coordinators are encouraged to attend. Come and learn about what other coordinators are doing to promote NFB-NEWSLINE around the country. Provide your input for future enhancements to the service. Your questions and suggestions are welcome.

### **7:30 - 9:00 PM—DADS' NIGHT OUT**

All dads, sighted and blind, are welcome.

Contact Corbb O'Connor at (703) 309-4884 for location. Sponsored by NOPBC.

### **7:30 - 9:30 PM—BLIND FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE MEETING Suwannee 13, Level 2**

Come learn about issues facing federal employees and applicants. Share your experiences with and your solutions to federal workplace challenges. Ronza Othman, Chairperson

### **8:00 - 10:00 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS (Ages 11-18) Wekiwa 1 and 2, Level 2**

What Does My Blindness Mean to Me?





## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, Continued**

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### **8:00 - 9:00 PM—FRIENDS OF RECOVERY MEETING**

#### **Suwannee 19, Level 2**

All convention delegates involved in or interested in twelve-step recovery programs are invited to attend. A second Friends of Recovery meeting will be on Friday at 8:00 p.m. Sheri Koch, Coordinator

### **8:00 - 9:30 PM—WEBMASTERS MEETING**

#### **Suwannee 20, Level 2**

A meeting for all NFB affiliate and division webmasters to discuss the importance of an informative, accessible, and visually attractive website. Gary Wunder, Chairperson

### **8:00 - 10:00 PM—NABS OLYMPICS (\$5)**

#### **Wekiwa 4, Level 2**

Do you like some competition with Federation friends? Are you eager to learn, help others, or just want to have fun? If you said yes to any of these questions, then join us for games, challenges, trivia, and an evening of fun with several of our national divisions and NFB training centers. Come play, compete, win prizes, and show off. All are invited! Kathryn Webster, President



**THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2017**

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**8:00 - 8:45 AM—DEVOTIONS**  
**Wekiwa 10, Level 2**

**8:45 - 9:15 AM—PREREGISTRATION PACKET PICKUP**  
**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

**8:45 - 9:15 AM—REGISTRATION (\$30), AND BANQUET TICKET SALES (\$65)**  
**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

## **OPENING GENERAL SESSION**

9:30 AM INVOCATION

9:35 AM WELCOMING CEREMONIES  
2017 National Convention Host Committee

10:05 AM CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM: VETERANS RECOGNIZED  
Dwight Sayer, President, National Association of Blind Veterans, a Division of the National Federation of the Blind; Winter Garden, Florida

10:25 AM ROLL CALL OF STATES AND APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

11:55 AM REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

12:00 PM ADJOURN

**Noon - 1:45 PM—EXHIBIT HALL AND INDEPENDENCE MARKET**  
**Sebastian Ballrooms K and L, Level 1**



## **THURSDAY, JULY 13, Continued**

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**12:15 - 1:15 PM**—AIRA - HOW IS TECHNOLOGY AND AUGMENTED REALITY DISRUPTING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE BLIND?

**Wekiwa 3, Level 2**

Learn how Aira is ushering in an exciting new stage in assistive technology through the use of wearable smart glasses devices, advancing connectivity and cutting-edge video and data streaming technologies to assist the blind in a wide range of daily activities. How will augmented reality and artificial intelligence combine to render a new level of personal assistance?

**12:15 - 1:45 PM**—LOUISIANA CENTER FOR THE BLIND ALUMNI RECEPTION

**Panzacola Ballroom H-2, Level 1**

All Louisiana Center for the Blind (LCB) alumni and those interested in learning more about our life-changing programs are welcome! Join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of our alumni! Learn how LCB training will help you “live the life you want!” Pam Allen, Executive Director

**1:30 - 2:00 PM**—PREREGISTRATION PACKET PICKUP

**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

**1:30 - 2:00 PM**—REGISTRATION (\$30) AND *FINAL* BANQUET TICKET SALES (\$65)

**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

### **GENERAL SESSION**

2:00 PM CALL TO ORDER

2:05 PM PRESIDENTIAL REPORT

Mark A. Riccobono, President, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland



## **THURSDAY, JULY 13, Continued**

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- 3:00 PM LEADERSHIP IN SELF-DRIVING AUTOMOBILES: THE BLIND AND THE SELF-DRIVING COALITION FOR SAFER STREETS  
David Strickland, General Counsel and Spokesperson, Self-Driving Coalition for Safer Streets; Washington, District of Columbia
- 3:20 PM LEADERSHIP IN LITERACY: HOW DO WE KNOW WHAT WE DO NOT KNOW?  
Marc Maurer, Director of Legal Policy and Immediate Past President, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland
- 3:40 PM ENGINEERING TOOLS FOR TACTILE FLUENCY: A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ORGANIZED BLIND MOVEMENT  
Josh Coffee, President, E.A.S.Y. LLC; Burlington, Vermont
- 3:55 PM EMPOWERING STEM EDUCATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY: HUMANWARE'S COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE  
Gilles Pepin, Chief Executive Officer, HumanWare; Drummondville, Québec, Canada
- 4:10 PM BUILDING NEW PATHS TO ACCESSIBILITY: POWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ACCESSIBLE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS  
Betsy Beaumon, President, Benetech; Palo Alto, California
- 4:30 PM REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS
- 5:00 PM ADJOURN

**5:30 - 6:30 PM**—NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
**Wekiwa 6, Level 2**

**5:30 - 7:30 PM**—RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC PROFESSIONALS MEETING  
**Suwannee 20, Level 2**

The National Federation of the Blind Jernigan Institute's Research Advisory Council invites interested individuals to discuss topics for

research and publication in the *Journal of Blindness Innovation and Research* (JBIR), as well as to share ideas for increasing the research and academic presence of the NFB. Edward Bell, Arielle Silverman, and Lou Ann Blake, Coordinators



## **THURSDAY, JULY 13, Continued**

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**5:30 - 8:30 PM**—SKI FOR LIGHT AND NFB SPORTS AND REC DIVISION MIX AND MINGLE

**Panzacola Ballroom H-3, Level 1**

Learn about the 2018 Ski for Light International Event near Lake Tahoe and touch cross-country skis and boots. Extreme athletes and those beginning a fitness journey can learn how the Sports and Rec Division supports your desire to keep fit! Appetizers first-come, first-served courtesy of Ski for Light. Cash bar.

**6:00 - 7:00 PM**—BREAKTHROUGH WEARABLE ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

**Panzacola H-4, Level 1**

Join OrCam for a demo of the next generation OrCam MyEye device.

**6:00 - 7:30 PM**—COMMITTEE ON AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES AND INNOVATIONS IN TRANSPORTATION

**Wekiwa 8, Level 2**

This committee collects information about trends in transportation and emerging models of transportation that might not exist today which may present opportunities for the blind to move around independently, ensuring the NFB plays a prominent role in the future of transportation. Sachin Dev Pavithran, Chairperson

**6:00 - 8:00 PM**—SELF-ADVOCACY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

**Panzacola F-2, Level 1**

A workshop for current or soon-to-be undergraduate or graduate students to know your legal rights and learn effective strategies for self-advocacy in obtaining accommodations and accessing instructional materials and digital content. Gabe Cazares and Valerie Yingling, National Federation of the Blind; Sharon Krevor-Weisbaum, Managing Partner, Brown, Goldstein & Levy, LLP

**6:00 - 8:00 PM**—IMPROVING THE TRAVEL EXPERIENCE USING UBER

**Wekiwa 5, Level 2**

Uber is changing the way people move within their communities, and feedback from the National Federation of the Blind has helped improve the app experience for people who are blind or low vision. Learn how to use the product, get insight into some of the upgrades we've made, and offer feedback on features you'd like to see.





## **THURSDAY, JULY 13, Continued**

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**6:00 - 10:00 PM**—EDUCATIONAL TESTING SERVICE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY ASSESSMENTS

**Wekiwa 7, Level 2**

**6:00-8:00 PM—Session I**

**8:00-10:00 PM—Session II**

Come learn about next generation assessments and how your access technologies are opening new doors of opportunity for personal advancement in education. Come learn and give feedback on how these new innovative assessments will take shape. Cary A. Supalo, Educational Testing Service

**6:30 - 9:00 PM**—COLORADO CENTER FOR THE BLIND OPEN HOUSE

**Panzacola Ballroom F-1, Level 1**

Meet the staff and students at the CCB to discover what great training will do for you! Pick up a Braille puzzle, get some favorite recipes, use a click rule, learn about stone carving, rock climbing and more. Training in Colorado will change your life! Julie Deden, Director

**7:00 - 8:00 PM**—HOW TO ADVOCATE FOR ACCESSIBILITY IN THE ERA OF VOTE-BY-MAIL

**Wekiwa 4, Level 2**

If your state is considering becoming a vote-by-mail state, or already is one, learn what the impacts are to blind voters and how to advocate for accessibility. Lou Ann Blake and Charles S. Brown, Coordinators

**7:00- 9:00 PM**—COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: OPEN TO ALL LEADERS

**Wekiwa 3, Level 2**

Join other chapters, affiliates, and divisions in a showcase of social media strategies and action plans, which will help you reach non-members in a “brand” new way. Plus, we’ll demonstrate how your fundraising communications can be *fun* and energizing! Corbb O’Connor, Chairperson

**7:00 - 9:00 PM**—EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

**Wekiwa 10, Level 2**

Face off with experts from the Employment Committee, who will give you advice and answer your questions. Learn about new technology and resources, too. Looking for a job? Bring your résumé! Looking for



an employee? Bring your job posting! Networking abounds.  
Suggestions for the committee are always welcome. Dick Davis,  
Chairperson



## **THURSDAY, JULY 13, Continued**

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**7:00 - 9:00 PM**—EXHIBIT HALL

**Sebastian Ballrooms K and L, Level 1**

**7:00 - 9:00 PM**—GRANT WRITING AND FUNDRAISING BASICS

**Wekiwa 6, Level 2**

This seminar covers dos and don'ts of grant writing and fundraising for chapters and affiliates. Patti Chang and Seth Lamkin, Coordinators

**7:00 - 10:00 PM**—NOPBC CONCURRENT SESSIONS

7:00-9:45 PM—Braille Basics: A make-and-take session to increase parents' knowledge of Braille and use of Braille around the home

—**Wekiwa 9, Level 2**

7:00-8:15 PM—IEP 101 - What does a good IEP look like and how do I get there?—**Suwannee 18, Level 2**

7:00-8:15 PM—Creating an IFSP: How do you create smart goals for your infant or toddler?—**Suwannee 19, Level 2**

8:30-9:45 PM—IEP 202: Beyond the basics—**Suwannee 18, Level 2**

8:30-9:45 PM—Basic IEP Advocacy Training: For NFB members and families who wish to help other families learn to advocate effectively at IEP meetings—**Suwannee 19, Level 2**

**7:00 - 10:00 PM**—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK ACTIVITY (Ages 11-18)

**Wekiwa 1, Level 2**

7:00-8:00 PM—(For Sighted Siblings of Blind Children, ages 11-18 only) Sibling Rivalry: What is it Like to Have a Brother or Sister Who Happens to Be Blind?

8:00-10:00 PM—(Ages 11-18) Unconventional Convention Scavenger Hunt

**7:00 - 10:00 PM**—NOPBC CHILDREN'S CRAFT & GAME NIGHT (Ages 5-12)

**Wekiwa 2, Level 2**

This activity will be available for children of families attending workshops during this time. NFB Child Care will not be open!

**8:00 - 9:30 PM—RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**Wekiwa 8, Level 2**

Technology is omnipresent in our lives. While it provides unprecedented advantages in education and employment, the blind are still excluded from many products. Hear about new advances and discuss ways we can influence developers to include accessibility in their hardware and software. Brian Buhrow, Chairperson



**THURSDAY, JULY 13, Continued**

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**8:00 - 10:00 PM—CAREERS IN AUTOMOTIVE-RELATED SPECIALTIES GROUP**

**Suwannee 20, Level 2**

Are you car crazy? Come and mingle with like-minded individuals. Marcus

Simmons will tell his interesting life's story. A list of the helpful devices presented last year will be available. Call (248) 595-9134 for details. Marcus Simmons, Chairman

**8:00 PM - Midnight—HOST COMMITTEE LUAU**

**Panzacola Ballrooms F-3 and F-4, Level 1**

\$7 wristbands ahead of time; \$10 at the door

Come one, come all, to what promises to be an entertaining event planned by our very own Host Committee. Arizona, Hawaii, Tennessee, the District of Columbia, and the NFB Student Division have put together an evening of fun with delicious food, desirable drinks, fun games, and lots of dancing! You won't want to miss this night with hundreds of Federationists joining together in good company! Shawn Callaway, Chair, National Convention Host Committee, and Kathryn Webster, NABS President

**9:00 PM - Midnight—TRIVIA NIGHT (Admission: \$10)**

**Panzacola Ballroom H-2, Level 1**

Who will be the 2017 Trivia Champions? It could be you! Come join the Community Service Division as we bring back trivia night! Flex your musical knowledge of popular songs, artists, and theme music in an evening full of fun, laughs, and some healthy competition! Proceeds benefit future programs and activities of the Community Service Division.



**FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2017**

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**8:00 - 8:45 AM—DEVOTIONS**  
**Wekiwa 10, Level 2**

**8:15 - 8:45 AM—PREREGISTRATION PACKET PICKUP**  
**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

**8:15 - 8:45 AM—REGISTRATION (\$30)**  
**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

## **GENERAL SESSION**

9:00 AM INVOCATION

9:05 AM FINANCIAL REPORT

10:00 AM ELECTIONS

10:30 AM LEADERSHIP IN FITNESS: A CROSSFIT TRAINER LIVING THE  
LIFE SHE WANTS  
Bettina Dolinsek, CrossFit Trainer; Des Moines, Iowa

10:50 AM RUNNING ACROSS AMERICA: A BLIND ULTRA-ATHLETE'S  
CHALLENGE TO CHANGE  
Jason Romero, Ultra-Athlete; Denver, Colorado

11:10 AM BREAKING BLIND: STAYING FIT WITH A DOSE OF  
FEDERATION LOVE, HOPE, AND DETERMINATION  
Maureen Nietfeld, Home Management Instructor, Colorado  
Center for the Blind; Littleton, Colorado

11:30 AM REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

12:00 PM ADJOURN



## **FRIDAY, JULY 14, Continued**

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**Noon - 1:45 PM**—EXHIBIT HALL AND INDEPENDENCE MARKET (final opportunity to visit the Independence Market and Exhibit Hall)

**Sebastian Ballrooms K and L, Level 1**

**12:15 - 1:15 PM**—A CONVERSATION WITH AIRA CEO SUMAN KANUGANTI

**Wekiwa 3, Level 2**

Aira founder and CEO Suman Kanuganti will sit down with surprise special guests and share Aira's roadmap of innovation—come find out what's next and on the mind of Aira and its customers.

**12:30 - 1:30 PM**—CASH AND CARING NETWORK

**Wekiwa 5, Level 2**

States and chapters will share information about raising funds for themselves and for the national treasury. We will feature pros and cons of online auctions and how to use social media. Every affiliate should be included in this network. Ramona Walhof, Chairperson

**12:30 - 1:45 PM**—NOPBC BRAINSTORMING SESSION

**Suwannee 20, Level 2**

Please share your ideas with us. What did you like at this convention? What resources would help you stay connected throughout the year? What workshops might you like to see us offer next year? Be a part of this valuable conversation. Kim Cunningham, President

**1:30 - 2:00 PM**—PREREGISTRATION PACKET PICKUP

**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

**1:30 - 2:00 PM**—REGISTRATION (\$30)

**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

## **GENERAL SESSION**

2:00 PM CALL TO ORDER

2:05 PM THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND: NEW DIRECTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Kirk Adams, President, American Foundation for the Blind;  
New York, New York



## **FRIDAY, JULY 14, Continued**

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- 2:20 PM TRANSFORMING HOPE INTO ACTION: A REPORT FROM THE  
WORLD BLIND UNION  
Fredric Schroeder, President, World Blind Union; Vienna,  
Virginia
- 2:40 PM A WORLDWIDE REVOLUTION: THE MARRAKESH TREATY, THE  
ACCESSIBLE BOOKS CONSORTIUM, AND GLOBAL LITERACY  
FOR THE BLIND  
Scott LaBarre, President, National Federation of the  
Blind of Colorado; President, National Association of  
Blind Lawyers, a Division of the National Federation  
of the Blind; Denver, Colorado
- 2:55 PM BUILDING THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY AMERICAN  
WORKFORCE: DISABILITY DOES NOT DEFINE YOUR  
EMPLOYMENT  
The Honorable R. Alexander Acosta, Secretary, United States  
Department of Labor; Washington, District of Columbia
- 3:15 PM FROM KNOWLEDGE TO POWER: A REPORT ON ADVOCACY  
AND POLICY PROGRAMS  
John Paré, Jr., Executive Director for Advocacy and Policy,  
National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland
- 3:35 PM REPORTS, RESOLUTIONS, AND OTHER BUSINESS
- 5:00 PM ADJOURN

### **5:00 - 9:00 PM—MICROSOFT USABILITY STUDY** **Wekiwa 10, Level 2**

Usability Study #1: Evaluating the accessibility of screen reader products on different platforms—Windows, Mac, Android, iOS. Participants must be regular computer users with screen reader experience. Familiarity with communication apps (such as Slack) is preferred. Sessions are thirty minutes in length.

Usability Study #2: Evaluating the accessibility of OneNote on Windows 10. Participants should be either K-12 or university students. Study will include a mixture of usability tasks and interviews. Sessions are sixty minutes in length.

Both sessions can be scheduled by emailing [accevent@microsoft.com](mailto:accevent@microsoft.com); participants will receive \$50 for their time.



## **FRIDAY, JULY 14, Continued**

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**7:00 - 8:30 PM**—SOCIAL SECURITY AND SSI: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

**Wekiwa 5, Level 2**

Social Security and SSI benefits, eligibility criteria, application process, reporting obligations, and information about working while receiving benefits. James McCarthy, Presenter

**7:00 - 9:00 PM**—BRAILLE PROOFREADING SEMINAR

**Wekiwa 9, Level 2**

If you are a parent of a blind child, teacher of blind and visually impaired children, a rehabilitation teacher, or interested in learning what's happening in the Braille field, join us to get hands-on experience. Presented by the National Association of Blind Office Professionals Division. Lisa Hall, President

**7:00 - 9:30 PM**—UPWARD MOBILITY SEMINAR

**Wekiwa 4, Level 2**

Stuck in a dead end job? Want to move up but don't know how? LinkedIn, networking, creative job search skills, and other ways to break the glass ceiling. Crafty ideas from employers, committee members, and others. Sponsored by the NFB Employment Committee.

**7:00 - 10:00 PM**—*DO YOU DREAM IN COLOR?* FILM SCREENING AND DISCUSSION

**Panzacola Ballrooms F-1 and F-2, Level 1**

Join us for a screening of the critically acclaimed film *Do You Dream in Color?* about four inspiring blind students and their journeys. This will be followed by a rare opportunity for a discussion with the film's creators, Sarah Ivy and Abigail Fuller, as well as Carina Orozco who is featured in the film and now works at our Colorado Center.

**8:00 - 9:00 PM**—FRIENDS OF RECOVERY MEETING

**Suwannee 19, Level 2**

All convention delegates involved in or interested in twelve-step recovery programs are invited to attend. Sheri Koch, Coordinator



## **FRIDAY, JULY 14, Continued**

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### **8:00 - 10:30 PM—SEVENTEETH ANNUAL SHOWCASE OF TALENT (\$5) Panzacola Ballroom G-1, Level 1**

Join us for a night of great performances. Whether you perform in the show or support your friends from the audience, it is an enjoyable evening of great entertainment. General admission is \$5. We will award cash prizes to two acts. The cost to perform in this year's show will be \$10. Call (314) 610-7740 if you have questions. Presented by the Performing Arts Division. Julie McGinnity, President





**SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2017**

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**7:15 - 8:45 AM—AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND**

7:15 AM—Doors open

7:30 AM—Breakfast served

The American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) cordially invites you to a complimentary breakfast, featuring remarks from president and CEO, Kirk Adams. Learn more about AFB's new strategic initiatives that will work toward an inclusive world with no limits for people who are blind or visually impaired. Attendance is limited; please RSVP to Sarah Malaier, [smalaier@afb.net](mailto:smalaier@afb.net) or call (202) 469-6831, by June 23 to receive a confirmation email with banquet room location information.

**8:00 - 8:45 AM—DEVOTIONS**

**Wekiwa 10, Level 2**

**8:15 - 8:45 AM—PREREGISTRATION PACKET PICKUP**

**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

**8:15 - 8:45 AM—REGISTRATION (\$30)—*Final opportunity to register***

**Sebastian Ballroom Pre-function Area, Level 1**

## **GENERAL SESSION**

9:00 AM INVOCATION

9:05 AM THE FUTURE OF ACCESS TECHNOLOGY FOR THE BLIND:  
PROGRESS AT VFO

Tom Tiernan, President and CEO, VFO; St. Petersburg, Florida

9:20 AM THE FUTURE OF EQUAL ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY: A  
COMMITMENT TO THE JOURNEY AT MICROSOFT

Jenny Lay-Flurrie, Chief Accessibility Officer, Microsoft;  
Redmond, Washington

9:40 AM WORLDWIDE EXCELLENCE IN TRAVEL: ACCESSIBILITY IN  
PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BLIND  
Bhala Dalvi, VP of Technology and Executive Sponsor of  
Accessibility, Expedia Inc.; Bellevue, Washington



## **SATURDAY, JULY 15, Continued**

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10:00 AM EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND PRODUCT INNOVATIONS:  
THE FUTURE OF THE AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE  
BLIND  
Craig Meador, President, American Printing House for the  
Blind; Louisville, Kentucky

10:15 AM EXCELLENCE IN TECHNOLOGY LED BY THE BLIND: A REPORT  
FROM THE JERNIGAN INSTITUTE  
Anil Lewis, Executive Director for the Jernigan Institute,  
National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

10:35 AM SUPPORTING EQUALITY FOR BLIND AMERICANS: A NEW  
SHERIFF IN THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES  
The Honorable Val Demings, United States House of  
Representatives, 10th Congressional District; Florida

10:55 AM THE POWER OF THE MIND: RESEARCH EXPLORING THE  
CAPACITY OF THE BLIND  
Marina Bedny, Assistant Professor, Johns Hopkins University,  
Baltimore, Maryland

11:10 AM BUILDING NEW PATHS TO ACCESSIBILITY: POWERING THE  
NEXT GENERATION OF ACCESSIBLE EDUCATIONAL  
MATERIALS  
Ann Cunningham, Art Instructor, Colorado Center for the  
Blind; Littleton, Colorado

11:25 AM REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

12:00 PM ADJOURN

**Noon - 1:45 PM**—AMATEUR RADIO DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING

**Suwannee 11, Level 2;** Rachel Olivero (AD90), President

**Noon - 1:45 PM**—RAFFLES AND DRAWINGS  
**Wekiwa 5, Level 2**



## **SATURDAY, JULY 15, Continued**

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**12:15 - 1:45 PM**—NLS QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION  
**Wekiwa 10, Level 2**

A question-and-answer session with the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress.

### **GENERAL SESSION**

2:00 PM CALL TO ORDER

2:05 PM DR. JACOB BOLOTIN AWARDS  
James Gashel, Chairperson, Dr. Jacob Bolotin Award  
Committee; Secretary, National Federation of the Blind;  
Avon, Colorado

2:35 PM KNFB READER: DEMONSTRATION AND PRODUCT UPDATE

2:45 PM EXPLORING THE FUTURE: DISABILITY, TECHNOLOGY, AND  
PARTNERSHIP  
Ray Kurzweil, Director of Engineering, Google, Inc.; Mountain  
View, California

3:05 PM REVOLUTIONIZING ACCESS TO INFORMATION: A PLATFORM  
FOR TESTING THE LIMITS  
Suman Kanuganti, Co-founder and CEO, Aira Tech Corp.; San  
Diego, California

3:25 PM THE BLIND COOK: CHOPPING THROUGH MISCONCEPTIONS  
TO LIVE THE LIFE SHE WANTS  
Christine Hà, Chef, Cookbook Author, and *Master Chef*  
Season 3 Winner; Houston, Texas

3:45 PM TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO REALITY: THE FULFILLMENT

OF ONE BLIND MAN'S MISSION

Ron Gardner, Past President, National Federation of the Blind  
of Utah; Bountiful, Utah

4:05 PM LEADERSHIP THROUGH ACTION: A CHAMPION FOR THE  
BLIND IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS

The Honorable David Young, United States House of  
Representatives, 3rd Congressional District; Iowa



**SATURDAY, JULY 15, Continued**

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4:25 PM REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

5:00 PM ADJOURN

7:00 PM—BANQUET

**Sebastian Ballrooms I and J, Level 1**

INVOCATION

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Marc Maurer

INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

BANQUET ADDRESS: Mark Riccobono

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

## CONVENTION NOTES:

**Note 1:** A Federation information desk is in the registration area from Tuesday morning through Saturday in case you have questions or need assistance.

**Note 2:** Rosen Shingle Creek room rates are: singles and doubles, \$83; triples and quads, \$89. In addition to the room rates, there is a 12.5 percent tax. There is no charge for children under seventeen in the room with parents as long as no extra bed is required. Proof of convention registration is necessary, including the showing of an NFB registration badge, if requested. Otherwise, regular hotel rates must be paid. This is a non-smoking hotel; smoking is permitted only in specified areas outside.

**Note 3:** Guide Dog Relief Areas:

There are two guide dog relief areas at the Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel. The one closest to the sleeping room section is located outside lower lobby level at the rear side of the hotel, toward the outdoor function space and pool area. The one closest to the meeting room section is located in the Panzacola-Sebastian wing on level one. Go past the Sebastian Ballrooms K and L (Exhibit Hall and Independence Market), exit through the doors across the end of the wing that lead to the event parking lot, and turn left.

**Note 4:** All requests for announcements by President Riccobono during General Sessions must be submitted in Braille.

**Note 5:** Raffle tickets will not be sold in the registration area, and no raffles or other such drawings will take place during convention sessions or at the banquet. The single exception will be that national divisions may (if they request it in advance) conduct drawings during the sessions or at the banquet. Groups or affiliates wishing to conduct their drawings (or any person wishing to know the winners) may go at noon on Saturday to Wekiwa 5, Level 2.

**Note 6:** Childcare for children between the ages of six weeks and twelve years is available during convention sessions, most meetings, and the banquet. Preregistration and payment by June 15 are required for childcare. Childcare is organized and supervised by Carla McQuillan, the executive director of Main Street Montessori Association. Duncan McQuillan serves as the activities and staff coordinator. Please note

that childcare services provides morning and afternoon snacks, but parents are required to provide lunch for their child(ren) every day. Times listed are the opening and closing times. A late fee of \$10 per quarter-hour per child will be assessed for late pickups. Childcare services hours are:

Monday, July 10 PM	8:30 AM to 12:30 PM and 1:30 to 5:30
Tuesday, July 11	Closed
Wednesday, July 12	8:30 AM to noon and 12:45 to 5:30 PM
Thursday, July 13 PM	9:00 AM to 12:30 PM and 1:30 to 5:30
Friday, July 14 PM	8:30 AM to 12:30 PM and 1:30 to 5:30
Saturday, July 15 PM	8:30 AM to 12:30 PM and 1:30 to 5:30
Banquet, July 15	6:30 PM to 30 minutes after the banquet ends

**Note 7:** Divisions, Committees, and Groups: The Federation carries on its business through the affiliated divisions, committees, and groups listed below:

## **DIVISIONS:**

Divisions of the National Federation of the Blind are organized around a specialized interest area usually related to employment or a major stage in life (e.g. parents or students). Divisions serve as a formal vehicle for building the organization at the national level.

Amateur Radio: *Rachel Olivero (AD9O), President*  
Assistive Technology Trainers: *Nancy Coffman, President*  
Communities of Faith: *Tom Anderson, President*  
Computer Science: *Brian Buhrow, President*  
Community Service: *Darian Smith, President*  
Deaf-Blind: *Alice Eaddy, President*  
Diabetes Action Network: *Bernadette Jacobs, President*  
Human Services: *Merry Schoch, President*  
Educators: *Cayte Mendez, President*  
Guide Dog Users: *Marion Gwizdala, President*  
Krafters: *Joyce Kane, President*  
Lawyers: *Scott LaBarre, President*  
Merchants: *Nicky Gacos, President*  
Promote the Use of Braille: *Steve Booth, President*  
Office Professionals: *Lisa Hall, President*  
Parents of Blind Children: *Kim Cunningham, President*  
Performing Arts: *Julie McGinnity, President*

Professionals in Blindness Education: *Eric Guillory, President*  
Public Employees: *Ivan Weich, President*  
Rehabilitation Professionals: *Melody Roane, President*  
Science and Engineering: *John Miller, President*  
Seniors: *Ruth Sager, President*  
Sports and Recreation: *Jessica Beecham, President*  
Students: *Kathryn Webster, President*  
United Blind Industrial Workers of America: *Sandy Halverson, President*  
Veterans: *Dwight Sayer, President*  
Writers: *Eve Sanchez, President*

## **COMMITTEES:**

Committees of the National Federation of the Blind are appointed by the President, with the exception of the nominating committee, and serve to advise the organization's leadership on important matters and to carry out projects to build the organization at all levels.

Ambassadors: *Dan Burke, Chairperson*  
Automobile and Pedestrian Safety: *Maurice Peret, Chairperson*  
Autonomous Vehicles and Innovations in Transportation: *Sachin Pavithran, Chairperson*  
Blind Educator of the Year Award: *Edward Bell, Chairperson*  
Blind Federal Employment: *Ronza Othman, Chairperson*  
Cash and Caring: *Ramona Walhof, Chairperson*  
Communications: *Corbb O'Connor, Chairperson*  
Distinguished Educator of Blind Students Award: *Carla McQuillan, Chairperson*  
Employment: *Dick Davis, Chairperson*  
Empower Underserved Populations: *Ron Brown, Chairperson*  
Genetic Education: *Ronit Ovadia Mazzoni, Chairperson*  
Imagination Fund: *Everette Bacon, Chairperson*  
Jacobus tenBroek Award: *Marc Maurer, Chairperson*  
Jacobus tenBroek Memorial Fund: *Tracy Soforenko, Chairperson*  
Kenneth Jernigan Fund: *Allen Harris, Chairperson*  
Library Services: *David Hyde and Marci Carpenter, Co-Chairpersons*  
Membership: *Jeannie Massay, Chairperson*  
PAC Plan: *Scott LaBarre, Chairperson*  
Promotion, Evaluation, and Advancement of Technology: *Mark Jones, Chairperson*  
Research and Development: *Brian Buhrow, Chairperson*  
Resolutions: *Sharon Maneki, Chairperson*



Scholarship: *Patti Gregory-Chang, Chairperson*

Shares Unlimited in NFB (SUN): *Sandy Halverson, Chairperson*

Spanish Translation: *Conchita Hernandez, Chairperson*

White Cane and Affiliate Finance: *Alpidio Rolón, Chairperson*

## **GROUPS:**

Groups of the National Federation of the Blind serve as a resource to members around specific topic areas. Groups are coordinated by a chairperson appointed by the President and are intended to connect members across the country to strengthen the resource network of the organization.

Blind Cancer Survivors Support: *Isaiah Nelson, Chairperson*

Blind Musicians: *Linda Mentink, Chairperson*

Blind Parents: *Deborah Kent Stein, Chairperson*

Blind Professional Journalists: *Elizabeth Campbell and Bryan Bashin,*

### *Co-Chairpersons*

Careers in Automotive Related Specialties: *Marcus Simmons, Chairperson*

Legislative Initiatives: *Don Burns, Chairperson*

Living History: *Michael Freholm, Chairperson*

NFB in Judaism: *David Stayer, Chairperson*

NFB LGBT Group: *Tai Tomasi, Chairperson*

NFB Lions: *Ramona Walhof and Milton Ota, Co-Chairpersons*

Orientation and Mobility: *Edward Bell, Chairperson*

Piano Technology: *Don Mitchell, Chairperson*

Travel and Tourism: *Amy Baron, President*

Webmasters: *Gary Wunder, Chairperson*

## **NAVIGATING THE HOTEL**

(Adapted from an article by Mary Ellen Jernigan in the May 2011 *Braille Monitor*)

In recent years I have written a description of the layout of the convention hotel. Although I have tried, I haven't been able to come up with an image as memorable as "a high top tennis shoe lying on its side" to picture the footprint of the hotel. Nor can I speak easily in terms of north, south, east, and west, because if you were to walk in the front door with compass in hand (which I did), you would find that you were heading not south, not east, or even southeast, but a little east of southeast—120 degrees to be exact.

The first thing to understand about the hotel is that the meeting rooms are located in an area that is totally separate from the part of the hotel that contains the sleeping rooms. The sleeping room elevators do not go to the meeting room levels. This means that the starting place to find any meeting room is always the main lobby.

When you have come in the front door, the hotel registration desk is located to your left along the same wall as the front door. Directly across from the front door toward the far side of the lobby you will find the Birdcage. The Birdcage is a tall, free-standing structure about three feet across filled with colorful, chirping, tropical birds, and is used by hotel staff and guests alike as a major landmark and meeting place. Just beyond the Birdcage is a balcony railing overlooking the level below. Since the odd compass orientation of the hotel makes speaking of facing, turning, or walking north, south, east, or west not particularly meaningful, I will use the following terms in describing the lobby: front door side of the lobby, balcony side of the lobby, facing the balcony, facing the front door, and standing at the Birdcage.

There are two sets of elevators in the main lobby. One set serves the lobby level, the lower lobby level, and floors 1 through 10. These elevators are located inside of a short, free-standing elevator corridor, which is perpendicular to and directly across from the hotel check-in desk. The corridor has an opening at both ends—one end opening toward the hotel check-in desk, and the other end opening toward the balcony side of the lobby. If you turn right as you exit the elevator corridor at the balcony end of the corridor, you will be heading directly toward the Birdcage.

The second set of elevators serves the lobby level, the lower lobby level, and floors 10 through 14. To find this set of elevators from the front door, cross the lobby to the Birdcage (at this point you will be facing the balcony rail overlooking the lower level) and turn right, walking until you reach dead end at a display case outside of the entrance to the Cala Bella restaurant. The elevators are now immediately on your right.

The numbering system for the sleeping rooms is based on the floor and the wing in which the room is located, with the floor number given first followed by the wing designation and then the room number. On each sleeping room floor as you leave the elevator area there is a tactile placard on the wall giving a diagram of the wing layout. The letters and numbers can be read tactilely.

If you are standing at the Birdcage facing the balcony rail, the staircase leading down to the lower level will be to your right along the balcony rail. Farther to your right is the fine dining Italian bistro Cala Bella. If you are facing the balcony rail and turn left at the Birdcage you will be walking along the balcony side of the lobby. You would pass the opening into the 1 to 10 elevator corridor on your left, and then continuing on you would find the concierge on your right. Immediately beyond the concierge's desk is a small single elevator which serves only the lobby level, the lower lobby level, and sleeping rooms located on the third floor. Just beyond this elevator are the entrances into the spa and fitness center. In this corner of the lobby you will also find men's and women's restrooms and a staircase leading to the third floor sleeping rooms.

Located on the lower level of the lobby is the large Café Osceola, which is open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, offering both buffets and à la carte menu options. Also on this level is the 18 Monroe Street Market. This market is open 24 hours a day and is a combination of convenience store and quick-service restaurant. The restaurant part of the operation opens at 6:30 a.m. and continues well into the evening, offering hot and cold deli-style sandwiches, salads, pizza, hot entrées and desserts either for dine-in or take-out to your room or the outside eating area near the pools. This is a large area containing tables and chairs.

The hotel swimming pools and hot tubs, outdoor function space, and recreation areas, and the Cat-Tails Pool Bar & Grille are all accessed

from the lower lobby level. All of this outdoor space is located on the rear side.

Outside on the front entrance side at the lobby level is a stand-alone facility housing a restaurant called A Land Remembered, open for lunch and dinner. As you leave the hotel, a long covered walkway to the right of the front entrance leads to A Land Remembered.

## MEETING SPACE

The meeting space is connected to the main lobby and sleeping room section by a wide passageway accessed only from the lobby level. Standing at the Birdcage facing the front door side of the hotel, walking forward across the lobby, and making a left turn just before going out the front door places you at the entrance to the passageway connecting the lobby and meeting space. Or if you are coming into the hotel through the front door, making a right turn immediately after passing the bell stand will place you at the entrance to this passageway.

Along both sides of the passageway are restaurants and shops. Walking toward the meeting space, the first thing on your left will be Smooth Java, a full-service coffee bar featuring Starbucks coffees; followed by Headwaters Lounge, which serves appetizers, salads, and sandwiches, as well as beverages; and finally the Banrai Sushi restaurant. The right side of the passageway as you walk toward the meeting space has a guest services counter where you can obtain tickets and transportation to various local attractions or arrange for an Enterprise rental car, followed by the hotel's gift shop. Two food outlets have swapped places this year. First on your right is newly-expanded Mexican eatery Mi Casa Tequila Taqueria. Next up is Tobias Burgers & Brews, serving pub fare with a broad selection of handcrafted burgers and local microbrew beers.

After passing by the retail shops and eateries, you come to a large rotunda, which serves as the entryway to the hotel's meeting space sometimes referred to as the "Convention Center." Continuing straight ahead, crossing the Rotunda to the far side, you will find a wide, short flight of steps leading up to Level 2 of the meeting space. At the base of the steps to the right and the left are escalators and staircases leading down to Level 1 of the meeting space. The escalator and staircase on your right take you to the Panzacola-Sebastian wing of the meeting space on Level 1. All of our meetings and activities on Level 1 are in the Panzacola-Sebastian wing. The escalator and staircase on your left lead to the Gatlin wing of the Level 1 meeting space. A small escalator located to the right of the steps also leads up to Level 2 of the meeting space.

None of our meetings or activities takes place in the Gatlin wing. Should you go down that escalator or staircase on your left, you cannot get to our meeting space in the Panzacola-Sebastian wing except by

coming back up to the Rotunda and taking the other escalator or staircase leading to the Panzacola-Sebastian wing.

With respect to the escalator and staircase, the staircase is located between the up escalator and the down escalator. A small elevator also serves the meeting space in the Panzacola-Sebastian wing on Level 1, the Rotunda, and the meeting space on Level 2. Please note that there is also a small elevator that goes from Level 2 to the Rotunda and to the Gatlin wing on Level 1. This means that should you happen to take the Gatlin wing elevator from Level 2, you would need to get off at the Rotunda. Remember, if you end up in the Gatlin wing (either by taking the wrong elevator, the wrong staircase, or the wrong escalator), you need to return to the Rotunda to get to the Panzacola-Sebastian wing. Level 2 of the meeting space is also served by two short escalators going only between the Rotunda and Level 2—the down escalator being found near the small elevator serving the Panzacola-Sebastian wing, and the up escalator being found near the small elevator serving the Gatlin wing.

If you continue straight ahead after you reach the top of the short flight of steps leading to Level 2, you enter a corridor containing the ten Wekiwa meeting rooms. These rooms are along both sides of the corridor with 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 on the right, and 10, 9, 8, 7, and 6 on the left.

If at the top of the steps you were to turn left and continue walking until you cannot go farther and then turn right, you enter a corridor containing the eleven Suwannee meeting rooms. These rooms are along both sides of the corridor with 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 on the right side, and 21, 20, 19, 18, 17, and 16 on the left. There are restrooms just ahead of you before you make the right turn into the Suwannee meeting room corridor.

Also located on Level 2 are the St. John's meeting rooms, but we do not use the St. John's rooms for any of our meetings.

The General Sessions, the Board meeting, the Banquet, the Exhibit Hall and Independence Market, Registration and Preregistration, Resolutions Committee meeting, and a number of our other activities and meetings are located on Level 1 in the Panzacola-Sebastian wing. The Panzacola-Sebastian wing contains the Panzacola Ballroom and the Sebastian Ballroom—both of which divide up into many smaller

meeting room sections. The names of the sections of the Panzacola Ballroom begin with F, G, or H. The sections of the Sebastian Ballroom begin with I, J, K, or L.

As you enter the Panzacola-Sebastian wing from the escalator, staircase, or small elevator you are entering an L-shaped passageway. As you continue walking straight ahead, you are walking along the short arm of the 'L.' The Panzacola meeting rooms F-4, F-3, F-2, and F-1 (in that order) will be on your left. There will be no rooms on your right. This short arm of the 'L' is about 200 feet long and ends at the Panzacola registration counter. (We are not using the Panzacola registration counter, but it is a good landmark to use to find the intersection of the long and short arms of the 'L.') Turning left at the Panzacola registration counter, you enter the very long (about 500 feet) arm of the 'L.' Along the left side of the long arm of the 'L' passageway (also known as the Panzacola-Sebastian Pre-function area) will be entryways (in this order) to the Panzacola G and H rooms and the Sebastian I, J, K, and L rooms. Along the right side of the passageway are glass doors and windows to the outside of the hotel, restrooms, and the Sebastian registration counter. Preregistration on Tuesday, July 11, will be at the Sebastian registration counter. Registration on Tuesday, July 11 for those who have not preregistered, will be farther down the 'L,' beyond the Sebastian registration counter. Later in the week, all registration will be at the Sebastian registration counter. During much of the convention, the hotel plans to offer buffet-type fast food service (quick breakfasts, beverages, soups, sandwiches, salads, chips, and perhaps some hot entrées) in the Panzacola-Sebastian Pre-function area.

General Sessions will be held in Sebastian I and J. The Exhibit Hall and Independence Market will be in Sebastian K and L, which is the last section of the Sebastian Ballroom at the very far end of the 500-foot passageway. Doors across the far end of the passageway lead outside to the event parking lot. Exiting these doors and turning right will lead to another dog relief area.

As I bring this article to a close, I offer one final navigation tip. If after studying this material you remember only one thing—it should be this: To go to any meeting of any kind from inside the hotel you must get yourself to the Rotunda.

See you at the Rotunda!



Thank You.

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